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COUNTRY____East Germany

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TOPIC____General Military Information

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DATE OF CONTENT

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REMARKS____

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1. Between 6 and 12 April 1954, troops in the two barracks installations in Prenzlau made preparations for their departure. No training in the terrain was conducted. Fatigue details cleaned the barracks area and reconditioned the fences. Twenty to thirty trucks were daily cleaned and prepared for roll call. the commissary will not be closed after the departure of the troops, as most of the officer dependents remained at the post. Troops were scheduled to leave on 14 April. [1]

2. At about noon on 11 April, a convoy of 13 trucks fully occupied by troops and sedan [blank] entered Bernau from the direction of Berlin. [2]

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3. No entraining or detraining operations were observed at Vogelsang railroad station between 5 and 13 April. No shipments passed through the station.

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4. [blank] construction headquarters Zehdenick the first stage of the 1954 construction project exceeded the total construction work done in 1953. Eighteen buildings were almost completed during the first stage. The second stage of the 1954 building project included the construction of two hospitals, which had already been started, a school for Soviet children, and 11 garages. Construction work for the garages will allegedly be started on 26 April. [3]

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5. [blank] the troops from Fuerstenwalde post were to depart about 20 April. [blank] as precautionary measure against occurrences such as the 17 June riot in 1953, some of the troops would remain at the post. [4]

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6. [blank] a motorized column of 1 tank, 2 trucks mounting machine guns, 14 trucks each towing an AT gun, and 4 sidecar motorcycles moved toward Rote Muehle from Babitz at Schweinrich troop training grounds. The column returned toward Babitz at 5:50 p.m. [blank] [5]

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7. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on 5 April, 6 M-31 300-mm rocket launchers, 27 trucks [blank] 1 field kitchen, and 4 other trucks with ammunition were detrained at Rathenow main railroad station. The four ammunition trucks moved toward Moegelin and the bulk of the shipment to the Kraftfahrer Kaserne

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6   about 60 soldiers with overcoats, vizor caps, and clean uniforms were seen at the main station, coming from the Kraftfahrer Kaserne. They boarded a passenger train. Numerous suitcases were hauled to the station by truck

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8. At about 5:30 p.m. on 4 April, 12 to 15 van-like trucks, 3 busses, 10 trucks, 1 jeep, and 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were entrained at Velten railroad station.   7

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9.   a troop train carrying about 15 tank trucks stood at Seddin railroad station. Leipzig-Plagwitz was indicated as dispatching station and Oranienburg as receiving station. Troops observed with the shipment wore red-bordered black epaulets. At about 7 p.m. on 13 April, another troop train with about 10 trucks   stood at the railroad station in Seddin. Wuensdorf was indicated as dispatching station and Ziesar as receiving station. 8

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1. Comment. Although the preparations are indicative of imminent departure of the troops of the 25th Tank Div, no pertinent information has so far been obtained.

2. Comment.   a convoy of the 71st Light Arty Brig (US).

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3. Comment. The statements confirm previous assumptions by this office, according to which barracks installations will be contructed northwest of Vogelsang. The installations will quarter at least elements of the 25th Tank Div stationed in Oranienburg.

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4. Comment. There has also been no information on the departure of units of the 7th Gds Mech Div from Fuerstenwalde.

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5. Comment.   probably a column of the 12th Gds Tank Div which conducted exercises in the area of Wittstock training grounds from 5 to approximately 10 April.

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6. Comment. Return of a unit of the 25th Gds RL Brig from exercises of the 10th Gds Tank Div.   three trains with   went from Jueterbog to Rathenow.

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7. Comment. Information fails to determine the identity of the troops on the train. However, the units either belong to units of the 31st AAA Div or 90th RL Regt (US) of the Second Gds Mech Army which,   went to Neuruppin   probably to participate in exercises of the 12th Gds Tank Div. See Comment 5 of the present report.

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8. Comment.   the train on 6 April carried tank trucks, apparently trucks of the Eighth Gds Army. The train on 13 April carried vehicles of the Third Shock Army.

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